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1983-01-06

Louis Welsh Joins San Diego Law Center at USD Law School

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LOUIS WELSH JOINS SAN DIEGO LAW CENTER AT USD LAW SCHOOL

Judge Louis M. Welsh, recently retired jurist of the California Superior Court, has joined the San Diego Law Center at the University of San Diego School of Law, where he will also co-teach classes in the field of Civil Procedure. According to Sheldon Krantz, law dean, Welsh's appointment became effective January 5.

"Judge Welsh will coordinate the Center's programs in developing alternatives to litigation in business disputes," Krantz said. "We are delighted to have someone with Judge Welsh's experience and intellectual depth, and we know he will provide important leadership in working out alternatives to litigation in the area of business disputes."

Welsh will be working side by side with attorney Carol Hallstrom, who has been named to work on dispute resolution projects and will be responsible for developing community mediation centers. In the area of business disputes specifically, Welsh will work with an advisory committee made up of leading attorneys and businessmen in the San Diego area, reviewing national developments in the field of alternative dispute resolutions, assessing existing local programs, identifying priority needs for San Diego County, and proposing some specific model projects for the San Diego Law Center to undertake. Plans call for the development of a demonstration project by the end of

the academic year.

Named Trial Judge of the Year in 1973 and again in 1978 by the San Diego Chapter, American Trial Lawyers Association, Welsh is a much-honored and widely published member of the legal profession. Most of his career has served the citizens and State of California, spanning some thirty years of private practice in Los Angeles and San Diego, and service on the bench beginning with a 1971 appointment as Superior Court judge. In the academic sphere, he has served as a faculty member of the California Trial Judges College, guest lecturer at University of London, King's College, annual lecturer at the UCSD School of Medicine and at Muir College, and has been a member of the USD School of Law Board of Visitors since 1974. Civic activities have included board memberships with the American Cancer Society, Rancho Coastal Humane Society, Big Brothers of San Diego, and the San Diego Committee for the Salk Institute.

The Dispute Resolution Center of the San Diego Law Center was established last October, funded in part by a \$125,000 grant from the Weingart Foundation. Envisioned as a means of testing and promoting alternatives to litigation in dispute resolution in San Diego, the Center will initiate demonstration non-litigation projects, develop and provide training in non-litigation forms of resolution for persons who would be working in these and related projects, develop and provide education programs for the general public and for special groups such as business executives, develop new courses and materials to sensitize law and business students to the advantages of avoiding costly and delay-ridden litigation, and provide assistance to other groups interested

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in initiating similar programs.

Krantz said he is convinced that San Diego can be a national leader in developing alternatives to litigation.

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